

WEEKLY VIEWS

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FRIDAY, APRIL 16, 2010

Correctional Police Officers Troy Keith and Frank Vanihel from the Putnamville Correctional Facility risked life and limb to rappel down the side of an old lime-stone quarry to save a dog that had fallen onto a ledge 80 feet above the quarry's watery depths. The dog, frightened, hungry and dehydrated, but surprisingly in good spirits, was taken to a local Humane Shelter. If unclaimed, the dog will become the newest member of the Putnamville Correctional Facility's K-9 Unit.

A Victims Awareness program was held at Pendleton Juvenile. The Future Soldiers performed a drill and released balloons in memory of victims of crime. A bush, donated by the Pendleton staff, was planted in the main yard

Offender food sales and donations collected by staff on a "walk-in" basis were donated to the family of our colleague, Officer William Glassford. Officer Glassford lost his home to a house fire and his child suffered injuries. Officer Glassford expressed his deep appreciation to the staff for their compassion.



Facilities throughout the state have been enthusiastically raising money for the Indiana Correctional Peace Officer Fund (ICPOF). The Correctional Industrial Facility donated \$100. The Indiana State Prison held a silent auction to raise money, with staff contributions totaling \$583.75. Over \$500 dollars was raised by staff from a walk-a-thon and bake sale at Pendleton Juvenile. Camp Summit staff have also embraced fund-raising activities for the ICPOF. Some activities have included: Bake Sales, Pot-Luck food sales, a White Elephant Sale, and auctioning the superintendents' parking spot.

Logansport Juvenile's CLIFF (Clean Lifestyle Is Freedom Forever) program presented its STAR (Students Talking about Recovery) program to the 7th and 8th grade classes at Pioneer Regional School Corporation. 6 STAR students presented the program information and answered questions from the audience. This presentation is being made to local school corporations, alternative schools and church youth groups.

The inaugural Indiana Correctional Peace Officer Fund (ICPOF) Golf Open will be held on Friday, May 14, 2010. There are still several group spots available. Interested parties should contact Greg Jones (219-785-2511 Ext. 4672 or gljones@idoc.in.gov) or Steven Klosowski (219-785-2511 Ext. 4188 or smklosowski@idoc.in.gov) as soon as possible. Proceeds will go to the ICPOF to benefit IDOC Employees in need.

Plainfield Correctional Facility held a PEN Products Career Path Workshop, hosted by Doug Evan and Lisa William of PEN Products. During the re-entry workshop, staff and offenders interacted as a team to complete skill assessments and a series of life skill projects which will aid the offenders as they transition back into society.

16 offenders will participate in a PREP (Prevention and Relationship Enhancement Program) weekend at Wabash Valley. PREP is a relationship building program and strong re-entry tool focused on expectations, commitment, feeling understood and forgiveness. US Health and Human Services will also be at Wabash Valley to observe a portion of the PREP weekend.

Northeast Juvenile Correctional Facility welcomed Dr. Elijah Anderson who spoke to the student population about making positive choices and the importance of getting an education to change their quality of life. He reflected about a trip to see an electric chair with his dad that motivated him to change his personal life and dedicate himself to reading and getting an education.

Logansport Juvenile Correctional Facility held a graduation ceremony for 26 students who earned their GED while at the facility. Logansport Mayor Mike Fincher was the keynote speaker for the event. The event was attended by family members of the graduates, staff members and the local press.

All offices, control pods, towers, storage areas and more got a thorough cleaning and outdated archive files also got the boot from the facility warehouse during Wabash Valley's "Spring Clean-Up Day".

The Facility Fundraising Feud to raise money for the Indiana Correctional Peace Officer Fund ended this week. Stay tuned to see which facility won the Commissioner's traveling trophy!

"There are no problems we cannot solve together, and very few that we can solve by ourselves." ~ Lyndon B. Johnson